

Commissioner for Patents

Serial Number 09/990,876

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A computer motherboard-mounted graphics card having at least one I/O connector, the card comprising:

two footprints positioned one behind the other for accommodating two different output types, wherein a closer one of the two footprints from a vertical edge of the card is for a DVI connector and a farther one of the two footprints from ^{the} a vertical edge of the card is for an HD-15 connector; and

one right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connector mounted with pins in a selected one of the two footprints.

a' 2. (currently amended) The computer card as claimed in claim 1, wherein the I/O connector is selectively connected to thea farther one of the two footprints from a the vertical edge of the computer card and has a correspondingly horizontally elongated body.

3. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 2, wherein the I/O connector comprises a first pair of card mounting members positioned vertically on each side of said pins and a third card mounting member positioned closer to said vertical edge, whereby the third card mounting member helps to stabilize the I/O connector on the computer card.

4. (currently amended) The computer card as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~the computer card has an NLX form factor,~~ said vertical edge has a lower cut-out for accommodating a double-high connector, the two footprints are positioned at an upper portion of the computer card, and the farther one of the two footprints is located at a ^{longer} horizontal distance from said vertical edge greater than ~~a horizontal distance of a said lower cut-out accommodating a double high connector,~~ whereby a

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same I/O connector connectable to the farther footprint could reach a footprint located on a lower portion of the computer card.

5. (currently amended) The computer card as claimed in claim 4, further comprising a third footprint positioned on a lower portion of the computer card near a ~~vertical edge of the lower cut-out~~, the third footprint being vertically aligned with the farther footprint of said two footprints, ~~whereby the third footprint may be used when the computer card is connected into a ATX form factor computer.~~

6. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a second right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connector mounted with pins in the third footprint, the second connector having a correspondingly horizontally elongated body.

7. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 6, wherein said one I/O connector and said second I/O connector each comprise a first pair of card mounting members positioned vertically on each side of said pins and a third card mounting member positioned closer to said vertical edge on an upper side thereof, said third card mounting member of said second I/O connector being mounted to said card near an upper edge of said cut-out, whereby the third card mounting member helps to stabilize the I/O connectors on the computer card.

8. (currently amended) ~~The computer card as claimed in claim 1, wherein the computer card has an NLX form factor, the two footprints are~~ A computer motherboard-mounted card having at least one I/O connector, the card comprising:

a vertical edge having a lower cut-out for accommodating a double-high connector;

two footprints positioned one behind the other for accommodating two different output types and positioned at an upper portion of the computer card, and the a farther one of the two footprints located at a horizontal distance from said vertical

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longer
edge greater than a horizontal distance of a lower cut-out accommodating a double-high connector, said lower cut-out; and

one right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connector mounted with pins in a selected one of the two footprints, whereby a same I/O connector connectable to the farther footprint could reach a footprint located on a lower portion of the computer card.

a) 9. (currently amended) The computer card as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a third footprint positioned on a lower portion of the computer card near a ~~vertical edge of the lower cut-out, the third footprint being vertically aligned with the farther footprint of said two footprints, whereby the third footprint may be used when the computer card is connected into a ATX form factor computer.~~

10. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 9, further comprising two sets of connector mounting member receiving holes provided in the computer card in a same position arrangement with respect to the farther one of the two footprints and to the third footprint, one of said holes being positioned with respect to the third footprint so as to be located near an upper edge of the lower cut-out close to a vertical edge of the computer card, whereby a connector-to-card mounting member received by the one of said holes can help to stabilize the I/O connector on the computer card when mounted in either the upper or lower portion of the card.

11. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a second right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connector mounted with pins in the third footprint, the second I/O connector having a correspondingly horizontally elongated body.

12. (original) The computer card as claimed in claim 11, wherein the one I/O connector is mounted with pins in a closer one of said two footprints.

13. (cancelled)

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14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

a1 16. (currently amended) The computer card as claimed in claim 11~~5~~, wherein a ~~closer one of said two footprints is for a DVI connector, the farther one of said two footprints is for an HD-15 connector,~~ the second I/O connector is being an HD-15 connector.

17. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a—motherboard-mounted computer graphic cards having at least one I/O connector, the method comprising:

providing at least two footprints positioned on each one of said~~the~~ computer cards for accommodating two different output types, wherein a closer one of the two footprints from a vertical edge of each card is for a DVI connector and a farther one of the two footprints from a vertical edge of each card is for an HD-15 connector;

providing a plurality of different right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connectors having mounting pins receivable by a selected one of the at least two footprints, said I/O connectors being adapted to reach the selected one of said footprints while providing a vertical edge I/O connector substantially at a common position with respect to said cards; and

selectively mounting one of said plurality of I/O connectors to one of said footprints to manufacture cards having a first I/O connector configuration ; and

selectively mounting another one of said plurality of I/O connectors to another one of said footprints to manufacture cards having a second I/O connector configuration.

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18. (original) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least two of the at least two footprints are positioned one behind the other, one of said I/O connectors having a correspondingly horizontally elongated body.

19. (currently amended) ~~The method as claimed in claim 18~~ A method of manufacturing a motherboard-mounted computer card having at least one I/O connector and a vertical edge having a lower cut-out for accommodating a double-high connector, the method comprising:

W } providing at least two footprints positioned on the computer card for accommodating two different output types; ~~wherein the computer card has an NLX form factor, and the at least two footprints are positioned at an upper portion of the computer card, and a farther one of the two footprints is located at a horizontal distance from said vertical edge greater than said lower cut-out; a horizontal distance of a lower cut-out accommodating a double high connector.~~

providing a plurality of different right-angle, vertical edge, I/O connectors having mounting pins receivable by a selected one of the at least two footprints, said I/O connectors being adapted to reach the selected one of said footprints while providing a vertical edge I/O connector substantially at a common position; and

selectively mounting one of said plurality of I/O connectors to one of said footprints.

20. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

providing an additional lower footprint positioned on a lower portion of the computer card near a vertical edge of the lower cut-out, the lower footprint being vertically aligned with the farther footprint of said at least two upper footprints; and

mounting one of said plurality of I/O connectors suitable for the farther one of the at least two upper footprints in the lower footprint, ~~whereby the computer card is used for an ATX form factor computer.~~

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21. (original) The method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising:

a1 providing two sets of connector mounting member receiving holes in the computer card in a same position arrangement with respect to the farther one of the two upper footprints and to the lower footprint, one of said holes being positioned with respect to the lower footprint so as to be located near an upper edge of the lower cut-out close to the vertical edge of the computer card;

connecting connector-to-card mounting members of said one of said plurality of I/O connectors into said holes for the lower footprint, whereby the connector-to-card mounting member received by the one of said holes helps stabilize the I/O connector on the computer card mounted in lower portion of the card.
